

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA -JTIMBERLAKE
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PM/ISO - JKIMBALL

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R 210318Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCLANTFLT
COMSECONDFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 233594

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EI, MARR, PINT

SUBJECT: VISITS OF US NAVY SHIPS

REF: (A) DUBLIN 1676; (B) STATE 205191; (C) DUBLIN 1906

1. EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON POSSIBILITY OF U.S. NAVY SHIP VISITS TO IRELAND REFTEL A MUCH APPRECIATED. WE WISH TO REASSURE YOU THAT, AS INDICATED REFTEL B, WE DO NOT ENVISAGE A HEAVY SCHEDULE BUT RATHER ONLY OCCASIONAL VISITS TO IRELAND OF SHIPS DEPLOYING OVERSEAS, AND THAT VISITS WILL BE HANDLED ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE BELIEVE PROPOSAL TO SEND USS MOUNT WHITNEY, A CONVENTIONALLY-POWERED NON-COMBATANT SHIP, TO DUBLIN OCTOBER 27-29 FULLY ACCORDS WITH AMBASSADOR'S PREFERENCES EXPRESSED REFTEL A.

2. WHEN PERMISSION INDICATED REFTEL C RECEIVED, WE WILL ACT PROMPTLY WITH DOD TO CONFIRM VISIT. WE HOPE GOI WILL NOT RAISE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS CARRIED BY U.S. NAVY
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SHIPS. IF IT DOES YOU SHOULD SAY THAT, WHILE USG OBJECTIVE

CONTINUES TO BE OCCASIONAL SHIP VISITS TO IRISH PORTS, IT
CANNOT MEET ANY STIPULATIONS CONCERNING NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS
CARRIED BY U.S. NAVAL SHIPS SINCE USG POLICY REMAINS HEITHER
TO CONFIRM NOR DEMY THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ROBINSON

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NNN

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